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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4031

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State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Representatives Appleton, B. Sullivan, Green, Takko, McCoy, Hunt, Darneille, Flannigan, Kessler, Chase, Eickmeyer, Morris, McIntire, Murray, Woods, O'Brien, Ericks, Pettigrew, Moeller, Dunshee, Lantz, Schual-Berke, Lovick, Morrell, Kenney, Clibborn, Sommers, Walsh, Strow, Haler, Talcott, Jarrett, Wallace, Dickerson, Conway, P. Sullivan, Hasegawa, Upthegrove, Rodne, Hankins, Williams, Springer, Cody, McDermott, Sells, Miloscia, Kagi, Campbell, Simpson, Roberts and Kilmer

Read first time 01/11/2006. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Ecology & Parks.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,  
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE SECRETARY OF THE  
5 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE:

6 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
7 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
8 represent and petition as follows:

9 WHEREAS, Puget Sound provides significant economic and natural  
10 resource benefits to the citizens of Washington and the United States;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, The state of Washington has adopted an oil spill  
13 prevention program with a zero spills strategy to protect the natural  
14 beauty of and economic benefits provided by Puget Sound; and

15 WHEREAS, The national marine fisheries service has listed the orca  
16 whale, Puget Sound chinook salmon, and Hood Canal summer chum under the  
17 federal endangered species act, bringing the total number of species  
18 listed as threatened, endangered, or candidate species on state and  
19 federal lists to forty; and

1       WHEREAS, In 1977, Senator Warren Magnuson declared that: "The  
2 waters of Puget Sound, and the attendant resources, are indeed a major  
3 national environmental treasure. Puget Sound ought to be strictly  
4 protected; its resources ought not to be threatened. Since tanker  
5 accidents are directly related to the amount of tanker traffic, there  
6 should not be an expansion of traffic over what now presently exists.";  
7 and

8       WHEREAS, The Magnuson Amendment has protected Puget Sound waters  
9 from oil spill risks for twenty-eight years by limiting the amount of  
10 oil delivered to Washington refineries by tanker to the quantity used  
11 by Washington consumers; and

12       WHEREAS, The Washington State Department of Ecology reported in  
13 2004 that approximately six hundred tankers a year enter Washington  
14 waters, and additional tanker traffic would significantly increase the  
15 likelihood of oil spills in Puget Sound; and

16       WHEREAS, The Magnuson Amendment has effectively limited tankers  
17 headed for refineries at Anacortes and Cherry Point near Ferndale by  
18 prohibiting federal agencies from issuing permits for the construction  
19 or expansion of dock or related facilities unless that expansion was  
20 necessary to meet increased Washington state demand;

21       NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that section 5  
22 of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. Sec. 476) be  
23 preserved to continue protecting Puget Sound for current and future  
24 citizens of Washington and the United States to enjoy.

25       BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
26 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United  
27 States, the Secretary of the United States Department of Commerce, the  
28 President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
29 Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of  
30 Washington.

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